



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: D'Ausilio, R. et al.

Examiner: Swiatek, Robert P.

Serial No.:

10/736,887

Group Art Unit:

3643

Title:

In Orbit Space Transportation

& Recovery System

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.8

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR Section 1.8 on the date indicated below and is addressed to Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-

Thomas N. Giaccherini, Registration No. 31,075

Date 17 March 2006.

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The Applicants submit this First Preliminary Amendment to more particularly point out the subject matter which they regard as their Invention.

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APPLICATION HISTORY

The Applicants filed the Present Application, which included Original Claims 1-102, on 15 December 2003. On 4 January 2006, the Patent Office issued a Requirement for Restriction. No other Office Action that contains an objection or rejection of any Pending Claims has been received by the Applicants as of 17 March 2006.

INDEX OF AMENDMENT SECTIONS

Amendments to the Claims are presented on Pages 4-29 of this First Preliminary Amendment.

Remarks are presented on Page 30.

A Conclusion is presented on Page 31.

The contents of an Appendix are described on Page 32, and six publications follow Page 32.